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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 11 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to a letter (A/48/191) addressed to Your Excellency on 6 August 1993 by El Salvador and six other Central American States, which requested the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item of so-called "Consideration of the exceptional situation of the Republic of China in Taiwan in the international context, based on the principle of universality and in accordance with the established model of parallel representation of divided countries at the United Nations". This move not only constitutes a serious infringement upon China's sovereignty and gross interference in China's internal affairs, but also runs counter to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as resolution 2758 (XXVI) adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session in 1971. The Government and people of China cannot but express great shock and immense indignation over this. It is known to all that there is only one China in the world and that is the People's Republic of China. As an inalienable part of China, Taiwan is only one of its provinces. This is a fact that has long been recognized by the United Nations and the international community. The question of Taiwan is the internal affairs of China in which no country has the right to interfere.

As is explicitly provided for in the Charter of the United Nations, the United Nations is a world body composed of sovereign States. Taiwan, as a province of China, is therefore devoid of any qualification whatsoever to join the United Nations. As for China's representation in the United Nations, the conclusion was made as early as 1971 by the General Assembly in its resolution 2758 (XXVI). This resolution, adopted by an overwhelming majority, states in unmistakable terms that "the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China are the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations and that the People's Republic of China is one of the five permanent

* A/48/150.

members of the Security Council". It was on the basis of this resolution that the legitimate seat and all the lawful rights of the Government of the People's Republic of China were restored in the United Nations. It is obvious that the question of China's representation in the United Nations has long been settled politically, legally and procedurally and "parallel representation" is entirely out of the question.

An important principle enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations is respect for State sovereignty and non-interference in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State. To raise the question of Taiwan's representation in the United Nations is an act that has seriously interfered in the internal affairs of China and deeply hurt the feelings of the Chinese people. It is therefore absolutely unacceptable to the Chinese Government and people. We firmly oppose any country or individual in advocating "two Chinas", "one China, one Taiwan" or "one country, two Governments" in the United Nations, under whatever pretext, or in whatever manner, name or by whatever means.

At present, the Chinese people are working unswervingly for the peaceful reunification of the motherland, and gratifying progress has been made. The reunification of China is an irreversible trend of history. The Taiwan authorities, pursuing their "silver bullet diplomacy" in an attempt to "return" to the United Nations, are actually trying to split China, obstruct and sabotage the great undertaking of China's reunification. This attempt has been and will continue to be resolutely opposed by the entire Chinese people, including people in Taiwan, and is, therefore, doomed to failure.

I would be grateful if you could have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 51 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) LI Zhaoxing
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Plenipotentiary and
Permanent Representative of the
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to the United Nations